are regularly assessed by the Engineering and Technology Policy Committees of BHEL. BHEL's inhouse R&D activities at manufacturing units and Corporate R&D have played a significant role in the process of assimilation of imported technology and know-how. Some representations were received in respect of R&D activities in BHEL.

BHEL has recently constituted a Committee of experts with a view to enhancing the overall effectiveness of R&D in BHEL.

Rejection of Civil appeal by Supreme Court of Shri R. N. Goenka

1311. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Civil Appeal No. 906—911 of 1973 filed by Mr. R. N. Goenka of Indian Express Group of Papers has been rejected recently by the Supreme Court of India;

(b) if so, will the Government now move to effect the order of 20-3-1973 wherein the Madras High Court in Writ Appeal No. 554 and 555 of 1971 had confirmed the orders dated the 22nd September, 1971 of Mr. Justice Ramprasad Rao; and

(c) how the Government propose to follow this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The trial relating to the case was completed and judgement pronounced by the Trial Court on 14-5-79. Against this judgement, an appeal was filed in the court of Sessions Judge and against the decision of the Sessions Judge, revision petitions have been filed in the Madras High Court and the same are pending before the Hon'ble Madras High Court.

1312. [*Transferred to the 11th March*, 1987.]

Judgement in Karnataka High Court

1313. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a recent case Supreme Court has expressed surprise over a seven years delay in rendering justice in a Karnataka Court as reported in 'Times of India' on the 25th January, 1987;

(b) how many cases are pending as on 1st January, 1987 in Supreme Court, various High Courts for over seven years and for over three years and for over ten years;

(c) whether any solution is in sight to these delays; and

(d) whether Government propose to reduce number of holidays and closed days till public gets some relief from delays in courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Government have seen the press report.

(b) Information as furnished by the Registries of Supreme Court and High Courts is given in the attached statement-I (*See* below)

(c) Steps taken to reduce pendency in Supreme Court and High Courts are given in the attached statement-II. (*See* below)

(d) The Chief Justice of India has informed that the Supreme Court has increased the number of working days by 2, making it a total 222 working days in a calendar year, including Saturdays. The Chief Justice of High Courts have also been requested to review the number of working days in the light of decision taken by the Supreme Court.